

### **REMARKS**

There were 18 claims in the original application numbered 1 – 18. Claims 1, 9, and 14 are the independent claims. With this Office Action Response there are 18 claims numbered 1 – 18. Claims 1, 3 – 8, and 10 – 18 (original) and claim 2 and 9 (currently amended).

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims argued herein is respectfully requested.

#### **Formality Changes**

Applicant has noted that claim 2 depends from itself. Applicant has modified claim 2 so that it now depends from claim 1 as was previously intended. Applicant believes that this change adds no new matter and is merely a requirement of formality.

Applicant has noted that claim 9 includes a grammatical anomaly. One instance of the word “task” was entered as “tasks” where it was referring to moderate to high complexity tasks. It has been changed to the word “task” in order to be grammatically consistent. Applicant believes that this change adds no new matter.

#### **The § 102 Rejections**

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1 – 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Notani (6,119,149).

Claims 1 - 8

At page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner cites three sections of text in Notani (col. 2, lines 8 – 21; col. 4 line 17 to col. 6, line 16; and col. 8, line 20 to col. 9, line 43) while referring to Applicant's claim 1. In citing claim 1, the Examiner states "Notani discloses...entities proximate to each said hub, tasks and complex tasks, a server coupled..." The portion of applicant's claim 1 referring to tasks and complex tasks actually reads "a computer program coupled to each said hub that *distinguishes between simple and complex tasks*" (emphasis added). Notani does not appear to teach or disclose a computer program that distinguishes between simple and complex tasks, thus Notani does not teach the invention.

Claim 1 also states in part, "a server coupled to at least one of said hubs, wherein said server is dedicated to performing simple tasks; and a server coupled to at least one of said hubs, wherein said server is dedicated to performing complex tasks." Applicant can find no mention in the Examiner cited text of a server coupled to a hub, wherein *the server is dedicated to performing simple tasks* and a server coupled to a hub, wherein *the server is dedicated to performing complex tasks* (emphasis added). Notani does not appear to teach or disclose the aforementioned features, thus Notani does not teach the invention.

For at least these reasons it is believed that claim 1 is allowable over Notani. Claims 2 - 8 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are also believed to be allowable over Notani. Action for allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 - 13

At page 3 of the office action the Examiner cites the three previously cited text sections of Notani (col. 2, lines 8 – 21; col. 4 line 17 to col. 6, line 16; and col. 8, line 20 to col. 9, line 43) as supporting her rejection of claims 9 - 13

Claim 9 is repeated here for the convenience of the Examiner.

9. (currently amended) A method for processing transactions at a hub, including steps of

- receiving a message from a user
- parsing said message and determining the relative complexity of tasks associated with said message;
- sending a moderate to high complexity task[[s]] to a heavyweight server, wherein said moderate to high complexity task is processed and sent to a user; and
- sending one or more simple tasks to a lightweight server, wherein said simple tasks are processed and sent to a user.

First, a portion of applicant's claim 9 states "parsing said message and determining the relative complexity of tasks associated with said message". Upon review of the Examiner cited text, applicant can find no mention that Notani parses and determines the relative complexity of tasks associated in a message as is recited in claim 9. Notani is not seen to teach or disclose this feature of Applicant's invention, thus Notani does not teach the invention.

Second, a portion of claim 9 states “sending a moderate to high complexity task[[s]] to a heavyweight server, wherein said moderate to high complexity task is processed and sent to a user”. Upon review of the Examiner cited text, applicant can find no mention that Notani sends moderate to high complexity tasks to a heavyweight server as is recited in claim 9. Notani is not seen to teach or disclose this feature of Applicant’s invention, thus Notani does not teach the invention.

Third, a portion of claim 9 states “sending one or more simple tasks to a lightweight server, wherein said simple tasks are processed and sent to a user.” Upon review of the Examiner cited text, applicant can find no mention that Notani sends simple tasks to a lightweight server as is recited in claim 9. Notani is not seen to teach or disclose this feature of Applicant’s invention, thus Notani does not teach the invention.

For at least these reasons it is believed that claim 9 is allowable over Notani. Claims 10 - 13 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 9 and are also believed to be allowable over Notani. Action for allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

#### Claims 14 - 18

The Examiner has not specifically directed Applicant to any text in Notani regarding claims 14 – 18. Claims 14 – 18 include similar features of the invention as recited in claims 9 - 13 but in the form of Lowry claims. Applicant has read the sections of text in Notani cited by the Examiner incident to claims 9 – 13. Applicant believes for at least the reasons

argued above in reference to claims 9 – 13, that claims 14 – 18 are allowable over Notani.

Action for allowance by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

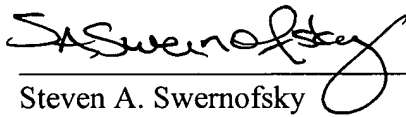
**Request for Allowance**

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number shown below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 15, 2005

  
Steven A. Swernofsky  
Reg. No. 33,040

Swernofsky Law Group PC  
P.O. Box 390013  
Mountain View, CA 94039-0013  
(650) 947-0700